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# THE METER

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Monday  
October 23, 2006

Nashville, Tenn.  
Volume 57  
Issue 12



This TSU graduate has found his niche in promoting club parties.

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Vandy's Quake homecoming concert was felt by TSU students.

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The Tiger football squad is undefeated in the OVC and feeling good

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## PAST • PRESENT • FUTURE

*TSU's current president joins historic legacy*

Story by

Marshall A. Latimore

Copy Editor/Opinions Editor

As the rest of the university community prepares for yet another event-filled Homecoming Week, TSU President Melvin N. Johnson, fresh off of his first year as the university's seventh president, prepares to officially take his place in school history.

See "Day" on page 9



## A celebration that has everyone talking

*"I am confident that you will make lasting contributions to our nation's tradition of excellence in higher education."*

- William J. Clinton, Former U.S. President

*"This appointment is testimony to your outstanding contributions and reputation as a leader throughout your distinguished career."*

- Jimmy Carter, Former U.S. President

*"Best wishes for your continued success in the field of higher education."*

- Jacqueline O'Neill, University Marshal, Harvard University





# Student's protest postponed by family deaths

## Meeting scheduled for Monday

By Marshall A. Latimore  
Copy Editor/Opinions Editor

While Ashley Milton had initially planned to protest what she called the "unfair" treatment of fellow Tiger Marcus Allen Smith, a chilling phone call from her hometown of Montgomery, Ala., cut her plans short.

Milton, who lost two cousins to cancer and her sister's boyfriend to a fatal car accident, returned to home to grieve her losses and comfort a family she said had been "torn to pieces" after hearing the news.

"I had three deaths in my family that I had to go home for," Milton said. "But regardless, I still haven't forgotten about Marcus."

As a result, Milton said she plans to hold a meeting Monday, Oct 23 at 5 p.m. in the SGA conference room with members of the university community who are interested in attending the protest she was apologetic about postponing.

After coming under a lot of criti-

cism from fellow Tigers, Milton urged the public to be realistic and stop being so judgmental about Smith.

"Just as stealing is wrong, so is judging (people)," Milton said. "What that officer did to Marcus, it just wasn't fair."

Smith, a senior business administration major from Las Vegas, was placed in critical condition after being shot in the neck by Tennessee state trooper Aussie Thaxter on the night of Thursday, Sept. 28.

Thaxter, who was working as a security officer for the Dillard's department store at Hickory Hollow Mall in Antioch, had given chase to Smith after the 21-year-old student was suspected of shoplifting and fled the store, according to a Sept. 29 media release from the Metro Nashville-Davidson County Police Department.

After unsuccessfully reaching through the open car door to turn-off the ignition of Smith's red Plymouth Breeze and being dragged for several feet, Thaxter fired his state-issued gun once at the student, the release stated.

Thaxter released go of the vehicle after firing his gun, and was later treated and released for minor injuries.

Julie Oaks, spokeswoman for the

Tennessee Department of Public Safety, said the department's internal affairs division is investigating whether procedures were properly followed in the incident.

"(The incident) is being very thoroughly investigated," Oaks said. "We're certainly glad that Trooper Thaxter made it out (of the hospital) okay. It's unfortunate in any situation when a trooper has to use deadly force for fear of their lives."

While the investigation continues by the department's internal affairs and Metro Police, Smith's family have closely monitored his improving condition and sent their appreciation for concern expressed by the university community, even though there is not much they can say at this time.

Smith's cousin Clint Donald, a senior criminal justice major from Chicago, said he has been making some progress but also said neither he nor Smith's father could offer any more details about the pending investigation. Nonetheless, Milton is still intent on giving Smith the voice she pledged to give two weeks ago.

"Life is a blessing," she said. "We all do things every day that aren't right, but life is about making decisions and learning from them."

## Events Calendar

### Monday

"Monday Night Football"  
**Powder Puff Football Game**  
3 p.m.

**Battle of the Residence Halls**  
Kean Hall  
7 p.m.

### Tuesday

"Touchdown Tuesday"  
**Mr. TSU pageant**  
Kean Hall  
7 p.m.  
(Doors open at 6 p.m.)

### Wednesday

Wide Receiver  
Wednesday"  
**Soul Food 'n' da Cafe'**  
Cafeteria  
4:30 p.m.

**Miss TSU Coronation**  
Kean Hall  
7 p.m.

### Thursday

**11th Annual Agriculture and Home Economics Hall of Fame Banquet**  
Farrell-Westbrook (The Barn)  
6 p.m.

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## The Meter

The Measure of Student Opinion and Sentiment

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### MISSION STATEMENT

The Meter's mission is to accurately and responsibly report the "highlights and lowlights" of Tennessee State University and its community so that we may foster positive changes in the world around us, while reflecting the university's multi-cultural student body.

### SUBMISSION REQUIREMENTS

The Meter invites submissions by all members of the Tennessee State University community. Timeliness and clarity are factors in selecting material for publication. Materials must adhere to the following guidelines:

a) All contributions must be typed and sent by e-mail.

b) Opinions and letters should not exceed 400 words.

c) The Meter reserves the right to reject letters, articles, or ads without explanation and to edit others as necessary.

## Top Meter photojournalist keeps on achieving

### Staff Report

As if being awarded a Scripps Howard internship with the *Commercial Appeal* newspaper in Memphis and having his work be published in the *USA Today* weren't enough, Kenneth Cummings has found another plateau to reach.

Cummings has recently been selected by the National Black Programming Consortium to attend the conference, "Black Technology Now: A Leadership Summit and Workshop," on Nov. 8 and 9 in Boston.

"This accomplishment is very rewarding," Cummings said. "I want to be able to bring back as much information to *The Meter* as I can. Working for the Black College Wire Summer Institute as a part of the staff, working for the *Commercial Appeal*, and having a photo run in the *USA Today* are just three of the many accomplishments that I have. I want to do more."

The "Black Technology Now: A Leadership Summit and Workshop" conference is sponsored by NBPC, which since 1979, has been a "leading provider on American public television of quality, intelligent and compelling programming that celebrates

the cultural heritage of African Americans and the African Diaspora," according to its Web site.

Blackcollegewire.org was asked to nominate some students to cover the event. Cummings was nominated by Jean Thompson and Valerie White because of his dedicated assistance during the Black College Wire Internship Training Institute in Nashville May 31 - June 4.

"My ultimate goal is to be, if not the top (photojournalist), the top black photojournalist in the country," Cummings said. "I love my job and I want to do it better each day I wake up."

### Corrections

The Meter regrets errors and will continue to bring readers accurate information.

### Monday

Oct 23

55°/33°



### Tuesday

Oct 24

58°/36°



### Wednesday

Oct. 25

65°/51°



# Chief of Staff not yet comfortable

## Strategies, goals to be discussed later

**By Madelyn Ragland and Marshall A. Latimore**  
Assistant News Editor and Copy Editor/Opinions Editor

The administrator who in essence is running the university, by serving as the chief of staff and legal counsel while TSU President Melvin N. Johnson raises friends within and outside the Nashville community, said she wants to wait six months before she communicates with the TSU community about her strategy, mission, values, and goals.

Lisa Atkins, who took office on July 1 of this year after the Tennessee Board of Regents' Chancellor Charles Manning's approval of her hiring, instructed her secretary Anita McGaha to inform *The Meter* that she would not schedule an interview before the start of the spring semester.

"She wants to feel comfortable in her position before *The Meter* interviews her," McGaha said.

In an Aug. 24 luncheon with *The Meter*, Johnson said it was important for students to have adequate access to he and his staff, a sentiment he said he also

shared with his cabinet.

"We've been open and candid...we also want to maintain that," Johnson said. "I've also asked the rest of my staff to be available to answer any questions you might have."

"I thought our relationship (with the student newspaper) has been extremely fluid," Johnson added. "And I want it to continue to be that way."

Atkins' position marked the first time TSU has ever had an in-house legal counsel and her duties include reporting directly to Johnson by providing him with legal advice and counsel.

As university counsel, Atkins is directly responsible for legal advice and legal representation, formulating and assisting with the implementation of risk management and loss prevention strategies, as well as serve as TSU's liaison to the TBR Office of General Counsel, according to the job description given by the TSU Department of Human Resources.

Johnson said it is extremely important for a president of a modern university to have a concentrated legal focus that he can depend on to help with handling the high numerous and complex legal exposures of a university.

"I have observed her performance diligently over the past year and have utmost respect and confidence in her abilities," Johnson said in a June 2006

media release.

Therefore, Brandon Johnson questioned Atkins' rationale for not meeting with students.

"How do you get comfortable in position without getting to know the student body or their concerns?" asked Johnson, a senior speech communications major from Detroit. "(She) is supposed to be serving students, not herself."

"The university already suffers from an obvious lack of communication on all levels," Johnson continued. "I'm a little concerned that we're starting to see it happen from the top down."

William Lawson, dean of the College of Arts and Sciences, said he wouldn't comment on his personal feelings, but did mention that Atkins has the choice of whom she communicates with in the university community.

"I believe it is (Atkins') prerogative who she speaks with and when she speaks with them," Lawson said. "Perhaps she's taking the time to get settled on the job."

In hiring Atkins, Johnson exercised the authority delegated to presidents' under TBR Board Policy Number 5:01:00:00, according to the TBR's Web site. But Atkins is no stranger to the university community.

Since December 2000, Atkins had been assigned as TSU's counsel for TBR and also served as litigation counsel for

the university while employed as staff attorney for the Tennessee Attorney General's Office.

In regards to Atkins' past performances at the TBR, she has a history of legal advisement pertaining to TSU and *The Meter* and its faculty advisor.

On Nov. 7, 2001, *Meter* staffer Alan C. Beard wrote a column criticizing former TSU President James A. Hefner and other aspects of the university. From there, Hefner and then Department of Communications head Maurice Odine requested that *The Meter's* faculty advisor Pamela E. Foster began proofreading and prior review.

On November 14, 2002, *The Meter's* advisor Pamela Foster received an e-mail from Atkins suggesting that she oblige Hefner's request and begin the student-journalists and rectify their problems by editing and proofreading the publication prior to printing.

"You can proofread after they do, before the paper goes to print, and then show them what they missed, so they can learn from the experiences and not repeat the mistake the next time around," Atkins wrote. "In the alternative, you can proofread with them, pointing out any errors they do not spot."

However, the law of prior review goes against Atkins' suggestion. The law

See "Atkins" on page 7

# Student follows heart, sets eyes on crown

**By Rechelle Jackson**  
Staff Reporter

"A student achiever is someone who doesn't settle for mediocrity and gives over 100 percent in all of their daily activities inside and outside of the classroom," Alona Stafford said. "(They) also present a positive image."

If this definition is true, then Stafford has certainly proved herself worthy by maintaining her 4.0 cumulative GPA and being involved in several extracurricular activities. This sophomore speech communications major from Nashville is a member of the University Honors Program where she currently serves as public relations officer.

She was also recently named Miss

Hale Hall for the 2006-2007 academic year and regularly volunteers her time at TSU's radio station WTST.

Stafford originally came to TSU during the summer of 2005 for the Engineering Concepts Institute, a program hosted by the College of Engineering that prepares future engineering majors for their college careers.

"TSU has a strong and well-known engineering program and I wanted to be apart of that," Stafford said, who was also rewarded the university's Presidential Scholarship, which requires students to have a 3.0 GPA and at least a 20 ACT score.

After some time at TSU, Stafford realized that her "personality was/is too colorful for engineering" and that her "heart wasn't into it anymore" She switched her major to speech communi-

cations but is not sure what she wants to do with that yet.

Veronica J. Duncan, coordinator interdisciplinary studies program associate professor, said Stafford does not settle for the bare minimum but goes above and beyond.

Duncan met Stafford during the spring of 2006 when Stafford took her honors public speaking class.

Stafford's classmates admired her and voted her "Best Dressed" and "Funniest Speaker" in her public speaking class last year, Duncan said.

"Alona always stood out by her intellect, confidence and speaking ability," Duncan said. "She could take any topic and make it real and personal. Alona is a lady and I appreciate her. I expect to see great things out of Alona in the future. I want her to be Miss TSU

because she exemplifies the characteristics needed for the job."

Stafford has big goals for her future which include: running for Miss TSU in the spring of 2008; maintaining her perfect 4.0 GPA; graduating with honors in her field of study; continuing to network; and help build up underclassmen that come after her.

She said two life mottos help keep her balanced and appreciative about life.

Stafford said she lives by two mottos: "Live each day like it's your last because tomorrow is not promised" and "Appreciate where you are in life because someone would kill to be in the same place."

**Read on Monday, Oct. 30  
for the next  
Student Achiever**



# What We Think

## Let us reflect as the future waits

As TSU readies to install Melvin N. Johnson as the seventh president in the university's history, it is but only appropriate to take this time and reflect upon the accomplishments of past university presidents and examine the loft goals our current president has set for the university to accomplish.

Progress has been a hallmark of TSU from its humble beginnings as a small teacher's college to its progression as a comprehensive urban university with two campuses. Through its 94 years of existence, TSU has continued to build upon its reputation as one of the preeminent institutions of higher learning. The university has thrived through two world wars, the Great Depression, and injustice of the Jim Crow era.

While there have been setbacks, there have undoubtedly been more triumphs as the university's legacy has been forged by the fire of its trials and tribulations. Throughout these ups and downs, TSU has maintained one mainstay, strong leaders. Each of TSU's past six presidents have contributed the strength of TSU's legacy and all have left the university better than when they found it.

The first president of the university was William Jasper Hale (1912-1943). At Hale's appointment, TSU was known as Tennessee Agricultural and Industrial State Normal School with student body of 247. Hale took a hands on approach from the running of the university by personally selected the first faculty members Clark Atlanta, Fisk, and Howard universities. In 1916, despite the fact that the state of Tennessee misappropriated Morrill Land Grant Funds and

only gave the school 40 percent of the funds owed to them, Hale managed to procure funds additional federal sources and gifts from the African-American community to keep the university running. According to Bobby L. Lovett, a professor of history at TSU, after visiting other institutions devoted to instructing African-Americans Hale adopted a pre-collegiate curriculum for the school and in secret created a black history course called Industrial Education "with emphasis on Negro problems." Despite systemic racism faced from both state officials and society at large, Hale managed to increase enrollment and in 1922 TSU was elevated to a four-year teacher's college in and was first given the authority to convey a bachelors degree.

When Walter S. Davis (1943-1968), a TSU graduate, was appointed to lead the University he likewise faced building a university in the face of legalized segregation. Despite the obvious obstacles, under Davis' watch the university increased from 670 students in 1943 to 5,092 by the fall quarter of 1965.

Andrew P. Torrence (1968-1974) became the second alumnus to run TSU. While at the time he held the position for a smaller amount of time than his prede-

cessors during Torrence has the distinction of being at the helm when the university formally dropped "Agricultural and Industrial" from its name and became Tennessee State University. It was also during this time that in 1968 that Rita Sanders, a TSU faculty member at the time, filed a lawsuit on the basis that the university was still running a dual system of higher education in Tennessee based on race. The final funds resulting from the lawsuit were not fully set until Sept 12 of this year.

Frederick Humphries became TSU's president during one of the largest changes in the history of the school. This momentous event was the merger of TSU with the University of Tennessee at Nashville in 1979. This merger resulted in the UTN campus becoming the downtown Avon Williams campus. Humphries faced the difficult task of maintaining the historical legacy of TSU while at the same time dealing with the results of the merger.

While only serving as president of TSU for a mere four years total, Otis Floyd (1987-1990) he continued to contribute to the university after being appointed chancellor of the Tennessee Board of Regents in 1990. Floyd was

able to help TSU gain \$112 million from the state general assembly for capital improvements to the university.

James A. Hefner (1991-2005) joined the legacy of TSU presidents on April 1, 1991. During Hefner's time at TSU, the university also completed the \$112 million capital improvements project initiated during Floyd's tenure. During this time virtually every existing structure renovated and eight other buildings were erected on campus. During Hefner's time at TSU, the Geier desegregation case came to its end in the form of a consent decree in 2001, giving additional funding to the university. Additionally, Hefner's 14 years consisted of TSU being listed in U.S. News & World Report's "Guide to America's Best Colleges" for 11 consecutive years.

Melvin N. Johnson begins his second year as president of TSU and his inauguration marks yet another era in TSU leadership. Johnson has already faced one large challenge in allocating the \$40 million to be given to the university over the next five years as the final part of the Geier lawsuit. Additionally, Johnson has set the ambitious goal of making TSU only the second HBCU and the fourth institution in the state of Tennessee to be classified as research extensive.

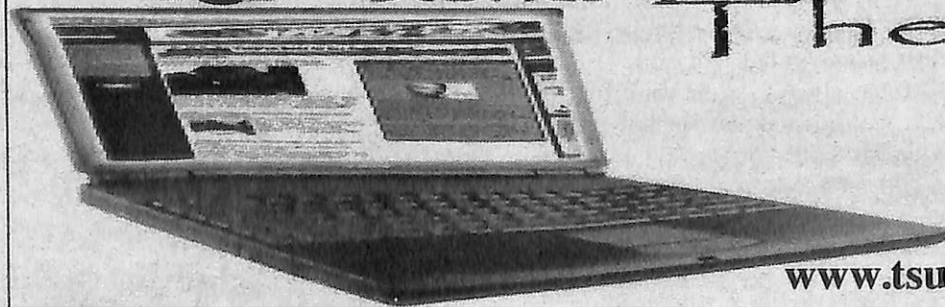
If Johnson's lofty aims for TSU are successful, the university will further solidify its place as one of the premier institutions in the nation. Likewise, Johnson will solidify his place amongst the other great leaders of TSU's past by following their pattern of excellence in capitalizing on all that TSU has to offer.

"Throughout these ups and downs, TSU has maintained one mainstay, strong leaders. Each of TSU's past six presidents have contributed the strength of TSU's legacy and all have left the university better than when they found it."

-The Meter editorial board

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# Editor apologizes, worries for future



**Eddie R. Cole Jr.**  
Editor In Chief

I want to apologize to the entire TSU community for the delay of the Monday, Oct. 23 issue of The Meter.

We missed deadline and, to top that off, we made no significant hurry to get it done. Granted, we had a brief technological snafu when the university's Internet server went down, but that is no excuse.

That was the least of our problems. We've had two weeks since our last issue. Two weeks! But, let's take a look at the reasons for the delay in the Oct. 23 issue and leadership lapse that I had that encompassed it.

After the publishing of the Monday, Oct. 9 issue, we had our usual 7 p.m. editorial board meeting. We did not meet for our follow-up meeting on Wednesday, Oct. 11 at 7 p.m. because of our upcoming Fall Break and my faith that the staff would begin prewriting for the Monday, Oct. 23 issue before we departed for the long weekend. They did not.

During the break, I focused on academic. I desire to graduate on time in May, but The Meter and its twice-weekly staff delays have definitely hampered my full potential in the classroom. I'm sure my four professors can attest to that fact.

Nevertheless, I sent out an e-mail reminder that we will meet on Wednesday, Oct. 18 at 7 p.m. the editorial board will meet. E-board members Marshall Latimore (copy), LaVonte Young (sports), Kenneth Cummings (visuals and photo), Cara Anthony (news), Madelyn Ragland (news), Taylon Terrell (news) and M. Joy Hayes (ads) were in attendance. Micheal Hart (responsible for getting paper on tsumeter.com), Melaney Whiting (responsible for Arts & Culture section), Travis Cooper (responsible for circulation) and DeShanee Miner (newsroom manager and most experience layout staffer) weren't there. That was the beginning of the end.

First, the section editors and reporters submitted very few photo request forms on time. Therefore, several pages visually are all text. Next, deadline for articles was set for Thursday, Oct. 19 at 8 p.m. was missed. Anthony and news assistants Ragland and Terrell got one of 11 budgeted items to the copy desk on time.

Whiting got three of eight items in and Young got three of five items in on time. Instead of putting my foot down, I allowed the copy desk to allow for a deadline extension so we would have a full fledged issue to kick off

Homecoming.

That's not it though.

Young was able to get a feature article to the copy desk on Wednesday, a full day before deadline, but the copy desk didn't get back with questions until Friday, Oct. 20. This was just another snafu.

The weekend came and three staffers stuck it out for the most part.

Imagine three people, two editors and a staff reporter, working on a 24 page paper. It's tough.

Visuals leader Cummings went home to Memphis and didn't return until Sunday at 8 p.m. with expectations of designing an entire issue.

Section editors were all over the place except in the office. Whiting, though, did come through on Sunday evening around 5 p.m. with hopes of getting some Friday concert coverage into

the publication.

We, the reigning first place winners of the best weekly newspaper among HBCUs, failed. We failed our readers, our publication's legacy and ourselves.

I truly worry for my fellow staffers as they go forth into the world and I worry for others at TSU as well. I've had internships with two daily newspapers and I know that deadlines are not to be taken lightly. The same goes for other careers even if the staff doesn't want a career in journalism.

The "real world" is tough and, with the current work ethic and respect for duties that this staff has, it's going to be difficult. I take full blame and ownership for the delay of this issue. That's my responsibility. But, I pray that something moves the spirits of these individuals to wake up and take responsibility in their lives.

*"The 'real world' is tough and, with the current work ethic and respect for duties that this staff has, it's going to be difficult."*

## It must be hard to be a black man



**Brittini Barnes**  
Sports Reporter

"I have a dream that my four little children will one day live in a nation where they would not be judged by the color of their skin..."

These are the famous words of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. in 1963 during his speech at the March on Washington. And you would think by the year 2006, his dream would have come true by now.

Thank God I don't have two strikes against me: one for being black and

another being a male.

Legally, yeah, the world is equal and no one discriminates against someone by the color of their skin. Products of this generation don't think that racial profiling is something that existence any more and, until recently, I had a similar mindset.

Growing up in Stone Mountain, Ga., known to be home of past Ku Klux Klan actions, my mom always told me never to leave home without any form of identification and to choose your friends carefully.

Although I've heard about many cases of "driving while black," never would I ever imagine that I would be a victim. As African-American female driving a 2003 Corolla with a minor dent in

the bumper, never thought that I would be targeted.

Luckily for me, I was in good company of two African-American females who have good manners, speak well and are well groomed.

The police walked to the car with his hand on his gun and two backup cars near by. "Who does this car belong to? Where are you coming from?" he asked.

After this occasion, I often wonder what would have happened if we were male or in a Caprice on 22's, what would have happened?

Would he have politely showed us to the highway after he saw that we weren't a threat to him? Or would it have been a typical case of driving while black?

It is often an assumption that drivers

of the tricked out cars with the big rims and bump in the trunk are gang bangers and drug dealers, mainly driven by black males. These cars are usually the ones targeted by members of the police force so they can spice up their boring night.

Yeah, it's unfortunate that discrimination is still a problem we face. But, like my dad always tells me, "you can't control what others do to you but you can control how you react." Stay calm and use your business professional voice and make them feel as ignorant as they are.

Remember, when you return to school the next day, what you are here for: to get an education and prove to the racist pigs that there is good in today's black male.



# Out-of-state numbers hurt high HOPE

By Brian Browley  
Senior Staff Reporter

One of the main reasons TSU has the lowest number of HOPE scholarship recipients is due to the fact that the university has the largest percentage of out-of-state students among any other state-funded institution in the state, according to officials at the Tennessee Higher Education Commission and the Tennessee Student Assistance Corporation.

Richard Rhoda, executive director of THEC, said that roughly 40 percent of TSU undergraduates are from out of state and are therefore automatically ineligible for the HOPE scholarship.

"There are three basic criteria for the lottery: high school grade point average (being one) and ACT score, another," Rhoda said. "The (other) one that plays against TSU in numbers is that you have to be an in-state resident."

"TSU has the largest percentage of undergraduate students who are out-of-state," he added. "Forty percent of TSU undergrads are out-of-state so that's going to reduce the eligible population right there."

A large number out-of-state students still choose to attend TSU despite the additional costs of attending the university and being eligible for or even receiving academic awards scholarships covering as much as all of the expenses to attend college in their home states.

Georgia, with a reported 393 incoming students during the 2004-05 school year, has the highest number of students from outside of Tennessee and has held that designation for quite a while, according to the 2005 TSU fact book. This is despite the fact that Georgia has one of the most successful lottery-funded scholarship programs in the nation.

"I took a tour of the engineering department and I saw myself fitting into the whole environment (here) and that's what brought me here," said Michael Moore Jr., a senior electrical engineering major from Atlanta.

And because of his insistence on attending TSU, Moore said he didn't apply for Georgia's HOPE scholarship.

Of other states with a lottery-funded scholarship, Florida ranks second in the number of students attending with at total 58 students. South Carolina has the third with a total of 32 students.

Some out of state students have chosen to attend TSU although they received academic rewards at other institutions substantial enough to cover most, if not all, of their tuition and other college related expenses.

Lance Blocker, a senior psychology major from Aiken, S.C., said he attended the university after receiving an offer to play football as a walk-on his freshman year.

"One of the main reasons I came here was to play football," Blocker said. "The (football program) gave me a chance to walk on as a freshman so I decided to go for it."

But even though Blocker said he loves the game and attending school here, he hates that he's had to take out financial aid loans since coming the university. At the end of spring 2006, Blocker quit playing football and began working in attempts to possibly get in-state status under TSU's work-rule program.

"I was able to get in-state tuition for the summer," Blocker said. "But somehow I wasn't able to get for this semester. I hate that tuition has been going up, it has been going up every year since I've been here."

Still, Blocker doesn't regret choosing to come to TSU. He said getting the chance to experience life on his own nearly six hours away from home and the opportunity to get a lot positive exposure make up for all the stress he's had to endure.

Christina Dobbs' decision to attend TSU resulted in the lost of multiple scholarship offers.

"I applied for the (University of Georgia), Georgia Southern (University) and Western Georgia (University)," said Christina Dobbs, a senior business administration major from Atlanta. "I had a full ride to all of those (schools); plus, my other scholarships would have more than covered my tuition."

"I have a \$1,000 scholarship," Dobbs said. "Only one of my scholarships rolled over to out of state."

Even with the rising cost of out-of-state tuition, and tuition in general, many students who could have avoided addi-

tionally costs still choose to attend TSU.

"I have a younger sister at Spelman and (together) my tuition and her tuition is over 50,000 and we don't qualify for financial aid," Dobbs said. "I went to a predominately white high school so I wanted to be around (blacks) for college."

In addition to students attending TSU based on the strength of its academic programs, some students, such as Dobbs, favored the involvement they could have at TSU versus a larger institution.

"I wouldn't just be a number here," said Dobbs, a member of the Student Government Association. "It's hard to be politically involved (on campus) when you are one out of 50,000."

Additionally, Moore said he had been impressed by the university's Aristocrat of Bands after years of attending the Atlanta Classic. "I was approached by a TSU band (recruiter) and it was a combination of (the band) and the engineering department that brought me here."

Also, out of the 16 colleges ranked above TSU in *Black Enterprises'* Sept. 2006 listing of the "Top 50 colleges for African-Americans," only Howard University in Washington had a less expensive base tuition than TSU.

Both Dobbs and Moore have GPAs above 3.0 and still have had to fine alternative means of financing their education.

"It's hard for out of state students to find out about scholarship opportunities," Dobbs said. "And once you become a student, it's (even) more difficult."

Dobbs pointed out that she didn't learn about many scholarships available to incoming freshman until she was actually enrolled at TSU as a student, which then made her ineligible for them.

"Unless you have someone already at TSU telling you, there's now way for you to know," Dobbs said.

Moore said, "I think (scholarships) are made for (in-state students). If you're an engineering major it's political; there are too many for us to pick and choose from."•

## Atkins to advise, make decisions

continued from page 3

reads, "When confronted with efforts by school officials to demand the right to review college student publications before distribution, the courts have consistency rejected such efforts," according to splc.org.

In a later letter to Chris Carroll, media adviser for Vanderbilt Student Communications Inc., on December 20, 2002, she clarified that "prior review" is not equal to "prior restraint." Carroll had written a letter to former Hefner dispelling his request. Atkins said that her suggestion of prior review is legal, but the interpretation that her initial letter was of prior restraint, which is illegal.

"Prior restraint" applies to content-based restriction," Atkins wrote. "The instruction given to *The Meter's* advisor was expressly limited to non-content-based review, consisting only of spelling and grammar."

Furthermore, in Atkins' current position she organizes the information flow to and from the Office of the President to ensure that important issues receive the president's immediate attention and briefs the president on policy issues.

She also receives and analyzes proposals; track important projects and issues; and assists in performance evaluations as well as oversees the process of appointing individuals to various university positions.

"By combining two important functions, the chief of staff and university counsel serves as a member of the president's executive staff and works closely and collaboratively with the senior leadership team, executive and administrative colleagues, and student leaders," Johnson said.

Additionally, Johnson said that Atkins advises him on legal matters related to strategic planning, policy development and researching. She provides legal advice to the president based on state and federal laws.

"This university has enormous potential and I look forward to joining President Johnson's team and working with he and (other key administrators) to advance and support this institution, its student, faculty, staff and alumni, and other constituents," said Atkins an e-mail to *The Meter* on June 29, two days prior to she officially took office at TSU. •

Visit the [tsumeter.com](http://tsumeter.com) archives to read the parts one and two of *The Meter's* breakdown of TSU HOPE scholarship numbers.



## SGA CORNER

Welcome back Tennessee State University family,

The Student Government Association has been hard at work over the last few months addressing students' issues and concerns complimented with a university-wide progressive sentiment that reassures me that we are cutting pathways into history.

We have recently implemented several checks and balances in the form of numerous constitutional revisions in an attempt to hold ourselves, as student leaders, more accountable for that in which we say we love, TSU. These revisions include processes by which to evaluate student organizations in General Assembly and members of the House of Delegates by holding and assisting them to become the much needed supports in which our student body stands on. We have integrated various university administrators to assist in our aim in enriching the overall student experience by facilitating developmental strategies, such as seminars.

During this highly anticipated

Homecoming Week, we invite the student body to participate in the activities of that the Student Union Board of Governors (SUBG) has planned. SUBG is another branch of Student Government Association that focuses on developing social activities to enhance the culture of the University. Student Government Association as a whole set a precedence this year through our strategic initiatives of Accountability, Communication and Leadership development. Through these goals we hope to redefine student leadership at Tennessee State University.

Sincerely,

**Ayodeji "DJ" Olojo**  
SGA President

### Upcoming SGA events:

SGA Inauguration Tuesday, Oct. 31  
at 8 p.m. in The Barn

Leadership Development Seminar  
Wednesday, Nov. 8 in the forum of  
the Floyd-Payne Campus Center

## ONLINE FEEDBACK

### Web readers give opinions on student shooting

*Editor's Note:* The following are responses to tsumeter.com in regards to *The Meter's* Monday, Oct. 9 article *Student takes stand*.

**Smith**

posted 10/09/06 @ 6:53 PM EST

I do not feel that any crime offenders should be handled lightly. Crime is not reducing, it's getting worse. If penalties do not get harsher, what will cause (the) crime rate to decrease? I agree, deadly force over shoplifting was not the best solution, but a car is a deadly weapon, and the state trooper was being (dragged) by the car. The alleged suspect probably would have done the same thing in the opposite shoes. Obviously, seeing the actions he chose in the first place.

**Courtney Murphy**

posted 10/10/06 @ 12:23 AM EST

I agree with what he's saying in the article because is it that serious to try and take someone's life over a piece of cotton? I'm not saying what Smith did was right, but honestly I think it was some

prejudice issues going on.

**S.**

posted 10/10/06 @ 10:40 AM EST

As a TSU graduate, I'm ashamed that a TSU student would even represent/carry himself in such a way and carryout such careless actions. Instead of standing up for criminals, we (at TSU) should try our best to make more of a positive image for ourselves and the university we represent, to show others that a few bad apples are not who we are as a whole.

**Washington, L**

posted 10/12/06 @ 3:32 PM EST

My prayers and condolences go out to Marcus and his family. I am, on the other hand, not at all sympathetic for him. True, he was shot over a piece of clothing, true, the item did cost less than \$300. If we are adults, mature adults might I add, then why can't we look at this situation on both sides. Why in the world would Marcus go to the mall to steal? Realistically, when you take part in stupid activities, and this was stupid, you tend to get stupid consequences. To look at a bigger picture if he had not been in

the mall stealing, then this wouldn't have happened. No matter who the person was, no matter what was stolen...it was wrong. I hated that it had to result in him almost losing his life, but where is his concern for his own life. Did he take time to think when the officer ordered him to halt that stealing some (little) funky T-shirts wasn't worth his life or even his freedom? No. I will not take a stand for a thief. Let's look at it this way. Marcus had two opportunities before he was shot to redeem his self. The officer could have blown him away as he was running out of the mall but he didn't. The officer also reached into the car trying to turn the ignition off, but no Marcus wanted to pull off dragging the officer out of the car. From what I here, Marcus was a graduating senior with a promising future. He was awaiting his test results for his LSAT and looking toward much success...and basically he wasted it all that over some cotton! Real talk. If it were myself, I would expect people to think the same way. That's the way I think and, of course, this is all my opinion!

**J.B.**

posted 10/12/06 @ 8:25 PM EST

I totally agree with Washington. It was sad that this happened, but we all make our own decisions. Making the right decisions, keeping our priorities straight, staying focused, as well as doing what's best for ourselves and others, are all a part of growing up, becoming mature, etc.

**Courtney**

posted 10/15/06 @ 2:24 PM EST

I totally agree that Smith made a ridiculous choice. I also can't understand why a person would want to be stealing in the first place, especially risking graduation but I don't think it was that necessary to take that kind of action. Why would you chase a person out the mall over merchandise that wasn't worth over \$300? Honestly, any kind of merchandise isn't worth chasing someone. I think it was a dangerous move to cause all that trouble knowing other people (were) around and could (have) put them in jeopardy. Honestly, I just think the whole situation is sad in both their cases. (No one) was right in this situation. Two wrongs don't make anything better. In this case, it just made things very controversial. Smith could (have) been better off learning his lesson in jail where he could think about his actions, not fighting for his life.

**J. Stokes**

posted 10/16/06 @ 9:16 PM EST

Does anyone know this child before brashly stating that there is no sympathy for him and his conduct? I don't condone stealing, but unfortunately kids that age get into trouble all the time. Did he have a gun and weapon out at the officer? Most state police forces have no chase policies because (of) you know what? Anyone around the mall could have gotten hit by that bullet. If you are being (dragged) by a vehicle, how steady is your aim?

**Jon**

posted 10/18/06 @ 1:47 PM EST

I cannot believe that many of you can't see that Marcus was wrongfully shot. Sure enough, he did steal which was wrong but getting shot in the neck over the shirts is attempted murder. As a matter of fact, I don't care if it the merchandise he was taking was

over \$100,000 dollars, it still doesn't mean you should be shot in the neck. I also believe the police department is using the excuse that the officer was being dragged in order to

justify the shooting and prevent a lawsuit. I've seen Marcus and he doesn't look like he's strong enough to drag anybody. I believe that the cop was trying to pull the key out of the ignition and at the same time Marcus was trying to pull off and then the cop used brute force to stop him. Even if this is not the case, the cop could have easily pulled out his baton instead of his gun to stop Marcus. All in all, the cop is wrong and this is just another case of police abusing their authority, because if you were to swap a normal citizen in place of the cop trying to uphold the law, the citizen would be on trial right now for attempted murder.

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# On the look out for yearbooks?

**All homecoming week the Tennessean will be selling yearbooks in the student center from the 1980's-2005, for only \$10.00.**

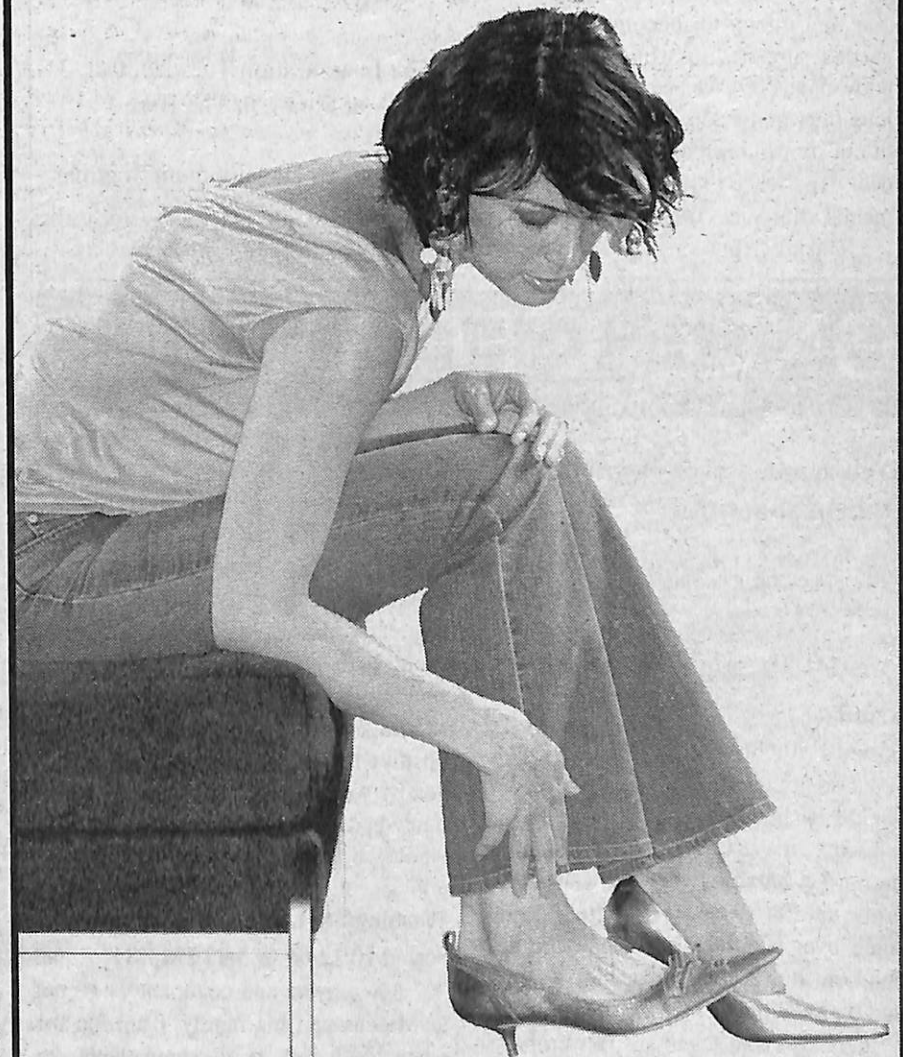
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# Day of activities await university community

continued from page 1

On Friday, Oct. 27, Johnson and first lady Marcelite Johnson will host a day full of inaugural activities beginning with a stately inaugural installation ceremony in the Gentry Center Complex at 9 a.m.

With a short reception to follow in the Gentry Center's Plaza, Johnson will be off again making appearances at the Alumni Fish Fry, Student Pep Rally and a Leadership Symposium Lecture given by esteemed TSU graduate Levi Watkins Jr.

Finally capping off the evening, Johnson will be honored at the Opryland Resort and Convention Center where a scholarship gala and ball, which will award 10 \$10,000 scholarships, is to be held in his honor.

"Building Bridges: Past-Present-Future" is Johnson's inauguration theme, which has been adopted for this year's Homecoming theme. Johnson said that with this theme he wants to build on a solid past of presidents who brought TSU to new heights of greatness.

## Big shoes to fill

William J. Hale, TSU's first president, held the post for longer than 30 years and, during his tenure, raised the university status from a four-year teacher's college to a college empowered of granting bachelor's degrees in 1922.

Following Hale, Walter S. Davis led the institution through a number of changes, including overseeing the college's achievement of university status in 1951 and later the university's elevation to a full-fledged land-grant institution in 1957. Also under Davis's leadership, 24 new buildings were constructed on the campus.

It was during Andrew P. Torrence's era as TSU's president that the formally dropped "Agricultural and Industrial" from its name and became Tennessee State University through a bill passed by the state legislature.

Another highlight of Torrence's tenure included the 1968 filing of a lawsuit by TSU faculty member Rita Sanders, who said that there was a dual system of higher education in Tennessee based on race.

When Frederick Humphries became TSU's president in 1975, Nashville still was home to two public, four-year universities. Under his leadership, the University of Tennessee at Nashville was merged into TSU and UTN's site became what is now the university's Avon Williams campus.

Otis Floyd assumed the post as TSU's fifth president in 1987, following a year as interim president. After being appointed chancellor of the Tennessee Board of Regents in 1990, Floyd kept TSU moving forward in both positions, having initiated efforts that resulted in the university receiving an unprecedented \$112 million from the state general assembly.

TSU's sixth president, James A. Hefner, took office on April 1, 1991, with prior experience as a university president. Before coming to the university, he served as president of Jackson State University in Jackson.

During the Hefner era, the TSU also completed its \$112 million capital improvements project, finishing the construction of eight buildings and renovated nearly every existing structure on campus.

## A celebration for all ages

Barbara Murrell, chair of the inauguration committee, said planning this year's inauguration has been "absolutely rewarding" for her and her team.

"It's been exciting, a true joy to serve the university," she said. "(These) volunteers came together to plan this significant historic event. We got a chance to participate in what everyone will witness as history in the making."

"In 97 years, there have only been five opportunities for people to see this," she added. "I hope that everyone takes part in this historic opportunity."

Murrell said the inauguration committee is composed of volunteers from all facets of the university community, including campus representatives, alumni, community leaders and students.

The goal of the celebration is to provide an opportunity for the installation of the new president as well as funds for students, Murrell added.

"One of the charges for the committee was to raise enough funds through contributions and enkind donations to completely underwrite the inauguration activities and provide scholarships for students,"

Murrell said. "As a result, we now have ten \$10,000 scholarships to be presented to students at the gala."

Murrell also said there is a possibility that funds will probably exceed their goals and create additional money beyond the 10 scholarships.

Peggy Earnest, dean of students and member of the inauguration committee,

said she really looking forward to the official ceremony set to take place early morning at 9 a.m.

With sections designated for alumni and student members of university organizations, Earnest said the committee's hope is that they will be able to create even more bridges between alumni and current students.

"We see this as an opportunity for TSU students meet alumni and welcome them home," Earnest said. "Can you picture the sight of students and alumni sitting together in their respective organizational colors? It is a very exciting thought."

Murrell agreed with Earnest, adding that it is important for the university to put its alumni in strategic places so that both parties can address students' needs.

"We want to make connections with student and alumni with this event," Murrell said. "It's necessary for us to bridge some of the gaps between students and their needs. We can only imagine what the future holds for us."

Shemika Williams, co-chairperson of the Student Union Board of Governors and student member of the inauguration committee, said serving on the committee was an invaluable experience she'll treasure for all her life.

"To be invited onto a committee of that magnitude as a student says a lot about our university and its students," Williams said. "Two reasons we live and do great things are for self-satisfaction and for history."

"In whatever we do we want to leave a legacy or a mark," she added. "...some-

thing to let others know that we strive for the best and that they can achieve higher aspirations than we accomplished."

## Forward bound

Johnson said he was very excited about Homecoming, and that this week's inauguration celebration will hold a special place in he and his wife's heart.

"We are all aware and proud of (TSU)'s history, the richness of the people, paces and moments that have prepared the university to soar to even greater heights," Johnson said in an address to the university community. "We have accomplished much during my first year here, yet there is still untapped potential awaiting us in the future."

"In our first year we were able to accomplish so many of my initial goals coming in," he added. "Now that our team is in place, we'll be able to accomplish even more mid- and long-range goals. I see a reinvigoration on this campus, throughout the university and its programs."

Johnson's wife, Marcelite, echoed his sentiments, adding that this year's celebration is special for their entire family, along with the university and the city of Nashville.

But this inauguration is even more special for her.

"Even though there were three college presidents in my family, I had never been able to see them inaugurated," she said. "Now I get my chance to see Melvin inaugurated. This is certainly a once in a lifetime opportunity."

*"Two reasons we live and do great things are for self-satisfaction and for history."*

-Shemika Williams

**Classes beginning before 10:40 a.m. on Friday, Aug. 21 are cancelled so students and faculty can attend the President's installation ceremony, which begins at 9 a.m. in the Gentry Center Complex.**



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# Contest kicks off historical inaugural week

**By Rechelle Jackson**  
Staff Reporter

The nineteenth annual Robert N. Murrell Oratorical Contest was held in Floyd-Payne Campus Center Forum on Sunday, Oct. 22 at 3 p.m. with TSU President Melvin N. Johnson announcing, "Let the Homecoming activities and the inaugural event begin!"

Jacqueline Mitchell, chair of the contest, said that even though she was glad everything was done, she was impressed by the contestants' incorporation of this year's theme, "Building Bridges: Past-Present-Future."

"I'm always tense in these situations," Mitchell said. "It was nerve-wrecking but in the end it's always fun and I have pleasant memories. We did what we always did, screened participants, informed the selected ones, set up an orientation and told them what and what not to do."

Six freshman and ten upperclassman students competed for cash awards and

gift certificates. First place winners were awarded \$700, second place \$500, and third place \$300. This year, the fourth place winner of the freshman division received a gift card to the bookstore and the fourth place winner of the upperclassmen division was given a dinner for two at a local hotel.

Contestants were scored based on the keeping to the theme, staying within the time limit, organization and structure, delivery skills, projection, and posture.

The first place winner of the freshman division, Tiffany Williams, an English major from Columbia, Mo., said she was in shock that she won.

"This is my first competition and I have never spoken in front of a big crowd," said Williams, also noting that she'd lost her voice just days before competition. "I wrote my speech, practiced, and tried to get the big speech to bullet points."

The first place winner of the upperclassman division was Kyle Williams, a senior speech communications major from Detroit, said he prepared for the

contest by seeking a lot of spiritual guidance.

"I did lots of writing and lots of praying," he said. "I went over the speech verbatim all of the time. I'm very surprised and did not expect to win."

Kyle Williams compared building bridges to gravy, saying that "gravy isn't enough to support a meal (or bridge). Add some steak and potatoes."

Barbara Murrell, husband of the late Robert N. Murrell and retired vice president for student affairs, was recognized by student organizations for the part she plays annually in the event. TSU's Alpha Theta chapter of Kappa Alpha Psi Fraternity Inc. presented her with a bouquet of flowers while the Alpha Chi chapter of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority Inc. also awarded her with a token of their appreciation.

All participants were presented certificates by William Lawson, dean of the College of Arts & Sciences, who also announced the winners.

Johnson offered closing remarks, encouraging the participants to continue building bridges and thanking them for

spreading positive messages through their speeches.

After the contest, all participants, faculty, staff, and other guests were invited to a reception in the faculty dining room.

## Oratorical Contest

### Freshman Winners

First place- Tiffany L. Williams

Second place- Mario P. Price

Third place- Adrienne C. Stewart

Fourth place- Kaila Thompson

### Upperclassman Winners

First place- Kyle L. Williams

Second place- Anthony Hartsfield

Third place- Assana D. Kassim

Fourth place- Dominique West

# Ludacris finds sweet release with Axe sponsorship

**By Melaney Whiting**  
Arts and Culture Editor

Chris "Ludacris" Bridges is on tour for his new album *Release Therapy* and was given a diamond-encrusted clicking device and new tour bus by Axe, a men's fragrance company that is promoting its new fragrance, Clix.

"(Axe) has given me a diamond clicker," said Ludacris, displaying his solid gold clicker with his name engraved and adorned with diamonds that he clicked in the music video for his first single, *Money Maker*. "As far as them sponsoring my tour, I would definitely love to continue my relationship with them."

The Axe tour bus' exterior was decked out with a large picture of Ludacris wearing shades, a silhouette of three girls who have Clix numbers on their chest with the caption "count your clicks" written underneath them, and also a huge picture of the commercial clicker with Ludacris' album release date digits displayed.

Ludacris is not the only celebrity

sponsored by Axe, as Clix has been heavily advertised in commercials by other music artists, such as Nick Lachey armed with a clicker that he clicks every time a girl winks, looks or smiles at him.

The interior of the tour bus was built with for comfort, donning eight flat-panel televisions, an X-box, satellite television and a fully stocked bar complete with a refrigerator and ice chest. There are also several leather reclining seats and a bathroom area, with wood-grain

and a surround sound speaker system throughout the bus.

Axe's promotion also provided Ludacris with Jason Newman, an intern for Axe Clix and Ludacris' right hand man for the tour.

"Officially, I am writing an article for *Rolling Stone* and mySpace while I am on tour with Ludacris," Newman said. "I'm behind the scenes writing to give readers insight on what it's like to be on tour with a multi-platinum rap artist."

*"I honestly don't know why  
Axe picked me for this job,  
all I did was send in clip-  
pings of my work, head  
shots, and my application."*

-Jason Newman

"I honestly don't know why Axe picked me for this job, all I did was send in clippings of my work, head shots, and my application," Newman added. "(But) being on tour with Ludacris has been a blast!!! The level of access they've given me has just been amazing."

According to Newman, Ludacris is having 10 shows total and this stop marks number seven. Ludacris has performed in Atlanta; Dallas; Champaign, Ill.; Winston Salem, N.C.; Clemson, S.C.; and New York City.

Newman is doing a blog on mySpace.com on all 10 shows and an article in *Rolling Stone* once the tour is over. While the blog will be on myspace in about a week or two, the article in *rolling stone* should come out some time in mid-November.

"I have been around and next to Chris consistently to help me learn about his lifestyle and report about it," Newman said.

**Read about Ludacris'  
concert on page 13**



# Student by day, promoter by night

By Itoro Umontuen  
Business Reporter

With the start of Homecoming Week, many students and alumni have made plans for their return to Nashville to reunite, reconnect, and above all else, party. Also, one of the questions you're almost guaranteed to hear is: "What's really good for tonight?"

That in mind, *The Meter's* Itoro Umontuen sat down with a few of Nashville's premier party promoters, and some of TSU's own, to find out more about the business of promoting, especially as a college student.

The group of promoters, who consists of **Kobie Randolph** of FirstKlass Entertainment and **Robert "Rob T" Terrell** of OnPoint Entertainment, as well as **Jermaine Dunlap** and **Inkera Jackman** of DaStreetzTalk.com, was interviewed to find out the ins and outs of promoting events. These four men are either graduates or current students of TSU.

Each company shared a collective mission of devoting to marketing events to Nashville's college community.

**How did each of you get involved in the business of promoting parties and what was your first event?**

**Dunlap:** I did this for the money! My first event was the "\$5 Dolla Holla" with the Ying Yang Twins in Tullahoma, Tenn.

**Jackman:** I'm new to this. My first event with DaStreetzTalk was the "So Icy Affair" at John Henry's on August 30, 2005.



PHOTO BY ITORO UMONTUEN

Promoters Inkera Jackman (far left) and Jermaine Dunlap (far right) pose with Lil' Gary and Whodini at the Atlanta Football Classic on Sept. 30.

**Randolph:** When I was in the 8th grade, the city of Memphis would have "Teen Nights," parties specifically for teenagers. Those parties were known for not having a safe environment, so my mom wouldn't let me attend. So, I brought the party to my house.

**Terrell:** I did small get-togethers at my house as well. Yeah, I burned holes through my mom's pockets, but I believed I could do this.

**Do each of you exclusively promote parties at TSU or on other campuses? If so, what are the differences?**

**Dunlap:** Tailor to us! We can't please everyone! For example, what we market at TSU is what we market to groups at Vanderbilt, Austin Peay, Meharry, and MTSU.

**Randolph:** TSU is Greek oriented. It's hard to separate the two: The organization and their party. However, what I've done is to put on events that are not affiliated with a Greek organization and people still gave a good time.

**Terrell:** However, the difference between TSU and other campuses is TSU will party the most. Knowing that, we use TSU as a base. Then we look at the other colleges and find out what kinds of students are on that campus.

**Do you think it's a blessing or a curse to promote a party with Greeks?**

**Randolph:** I wouldn't say it's either a blessing or a curse. However, when collaborating with Greeks, some do have the belief of, "We are 'this', and our party should be off the chain," when in reality,

no one is having fun except them.

**Dunlap:** Since I'm a member of a Greek organization (Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity Inc.), I'm not going to down any particular organization. However, we view any collaboration as a partnership. Each group/individual must pull their weight.

**Which type of flyer do you prefer: The black and white flyer or the 3-inch by 5-inch glossy color flyer?**

**Dunlap:** We don't use black and white flyers because it's a reflection of your party and you as a promoter. When I look at a black and white flyer, I say to myself: This would never be me!

**Jackman:** I'd never use it. I agree with Dunlap.

**Randolph:** I'm in agreement with the both of them. Professionally done flyers are going to be the only visual marketing tool you'll see in college.

**Terrell:** Presentation and the name will speak for you.

**Randolph:** Now, I'm not going to front. If I have very little time to promote an event, I'll resort to printing on white paper. Other than that, I refuse to print in black and white.

**What does it take to bring a celebrity to perform or appear at your party?**

**Randolph:** It depends on who's making the call, whether we can sell our vision, and connections. For example, T.I. came to Memphis for Fight Night and he only charged \$300 because he was cool with the owner and promoter Curtis Givens. Givens is the top promoter in Memphis. However, if someone of TIP's status doesn't know the promoter or the club owner, the cost of bringing him to appear or perform will be high.

Celebrities demand a high-dollar value up front, usually a percentage of the door (cost to get in the club). Then, you must account for the compensation of the security, the hours, the bartender, etc. The problem most beginning promoters run into is when they start making promises. They make promises and they don't have the money to back up what they claim. So, it's important for the beginning promoter to be smart with their money.



PHOTO BY ITORO UMONTUEN

Students-promoters Robert Terrell and Kobie Randolph are seen here following their official Ludacris concert afterparty at Nashville's Club Mystic on Friday, Oct. 20.

**That leads me perfectly into my next question. What advice would you give to the person who is interested in promoting events?**

**Dunlap:** Have money to cover your expenses. Secondly, paper flyers are for rookies! Don't come to the basketball court with your church shoes on. Next, get ready for the haters because they will always have negative things to say. After that, beware of the fake promoter — someone who isn't serious about his or her craft. These people do not put on consistently great parties and they will garner a bad reputation. Next, don't wear your emotions on your sleeve and always keep God first!

**When you are done with promoting college-age parties, what is the next step for all of you?**

**Terrell:** I would like for you to grow with us. We want to promote upscale parties, events for the urban professionals, and design marketing campaigns for Fortune 500 companies. Kobie and I are from the same area (Memphis) and have known each other for a long time. So, I'm comfortable working with him and collaborating on many different projects.

**Dunlap:** We want to be the G-Unit of marketing and promotions! We want to turn DaStreetzTalk into a brand.◊





## Royal Court, Aramark treat students to dinner

By Tiffani McDaniel  
Co-Assistant Arts & Culture  
Editor

One week before what is perhaps the most exciting week on campus, some pre-Homecoming events already have some students anticipating the events that are set to soon occur.

Miss TSU Dairanetta Spain and the Royal Court helped kicked off the celebration by uniting the student body in breaking bread in the main cafeteria on Thursday, Oct. 19.

The students who attended helped maintain a positive and stress free atmosphere.

Miss Sophomore Ashlee Akins, a speech pathology major from Jackson, Tenn., said the court wanted to make a one-on-one connection with the student body. Akins added that they were hoping to alleviate stress during midterm week.

A crowd in the cafeteria began to form around 5 p.m., as TSU graduate Kimeo "DJ Braveheart" Smith kicked off the gathering by playing a Yo Gotti song.

"I love being at TSU," said Dominic Mathews, a sophomore criminal justice major from Memphis. "I try to participate in everything; the atmosphere and the music here (was) great!"

Members of different campus organizations also came out to support the court. Mia McCain, a junior business administration major from Memphis, said she and fellow members of Love You Like A Sister Inc. came out to support Spain and Miss Senior Candice Witt, who are members, and the rest of the court.

Many students that came out said they made relaxation their top priority. While some students danced and got hype off the music, others were conversing or eating the special meal that the cafeteria prepared.



PHOTO BY KENNETH CUMMINGS

**Miss TSU Dairanetta Spain eats with students during an evening in the main cafeteria for dinner with Royal Court on Thursday, Oct. 19.**

Aramark, TSU's food service provider, contributed to the success of Miss TSU's dinner.

Executive chef Mike Davis said that the court did not have to donate any funds, and that the dinner was a special event that the Aramark staff wanted to do. Davis added students went through the normal procedure of swiping their cards, however, they had additional options then normal.

Students enjoyed the feast prepared for them, and the cafeteria set up an upscale roast beef carving station, along with additional meat and vegetable options like broccoli, macaroni and cheese, green beans, mashed potatoes with gravy, cornbread dressing, dinner rolls, fried chicken, smothered chicken and Italian chicken.

Endja Stubberfield, a freshman computer science major from Paris, Tenn., said the food was better than the usual burgers and fries she usually eats and that Aramark should continue to serve more soul food.

Nonetheless, the music played Smith garnered great praise. Several students seem to really get into the head-

bobbing tunes of southern artist DJ UNK and Houston heartthrob Beyonce that blared through the speakers.

Smith said he was just belated to help a longtime friend, Spain.

"She is like my little sister," Smith said. "I told her when she won I would help her in anyway possible."

Bryant Nall, a freshman elementary education major from South Fulton, Tenn., said that they should have music in the cafeteria every day.

Sierra Lloid, a freshman business marketing major from Atlanta, said that the environment was really chill, and that she enjoyed the music selection.

But despite all the praise, some students like FaTassia Reed did not agree with the music that Smith was playing. Reed said much of the music that was being played came from the dirty south, and it did not have much diversity.

Reed, a freshman biology major from Chicago, mentioned that she thought the Smith should try to diversify the music, besides playing only southern music, they should switch it up.

"I would love to play music from that part of the country," Smith said, noting that he was also a Midwest native, having grown up in Cincinnati. "However, (being) that at TSU the majority of the people are from Memphis or Atlanta, all they want to hear is crunk and snap music."

"Nevertheless, every student that came out definitely seemed as though they were having a great time," he added.

Spain added the student participation was a success no matter the people who came out.

Warren Burke, a sophomore accounting major from Memphis and member of the Student Government Association, said that he personally knew all members of the court, and that everyone was really cool and easy to get along with.

"I enjoyed seeing a (decrease) in student apathy," Burke said.

**The Miss TSU Royal  
Coronation is Wednesday,  
Oct. 25 at 7 p.m.  
in Kean Hall.**



# TSU students enjoy Vandy Homecoming concert

By Kirsten D. Watkins  
Contributing Reporter

As TSU junior Chante Morrison stood on top of the bleachers in Vanderbilt's Memorial Gym and ecstatically waves her hands in the air, she confesses that a concert this hype was just what she needed to unwind from a week of midterms.

The annual Vandy Quake, Vanderbilt University's homecoming concert, took place on Friday, Oct. 20, and showtime was not too long after the promised hour of 8 p.m. Among the artists present was Ludacris, hip-hop artist and self-proclaimed "Breadwinner of Disturbing the Peace," new R&B artist Shareefa, and the soulful and conscious emcee Common.

"I showed up just a few minutes late," said Morrison, a psychology major from Antioch, Calif. "But, I was so glad that I didn't miss the beginning of the show."

With the arena packed with several thousand people, the concert began with the R&B soulful croonings of Shareefa, the newest edition to Disturbing the Peace's trademark. She approached the stage gracefully and welcomed the audience to, as she put it, "the point of no return," also the title of her debut release out on Oct. 24. This Newark, N.J. native

gave her all as she performed *Cry No More, Trippin*, as well as the radio smash *I Need a Boss* featuring DTP boss and labelmate Ludacris.

The next artist to rock the stage was the intriguing and poetic emcee Common, who has garnered rave reviews in the industry since his debut on the hip-hop scene in 1992. During his set, this veteran emcee took the audience through phases of love, deceit and doubt, and celebration of life with *Love of My Life*, *Testify*, *Faithful* and his first commercial hit *The Light*.

"When I bought my ticket, I didn't know that Common was going to perform and I did not expect for his performance to be as amazing and powerful as it was," Morrison said.

Shaana Worlds, a senior English major from Moss Point, Miss., also stood pleased with a positive event for Vanderbilt that did not exclude the students from surrounding schools.

Even the artists were aware that neighboring schools' students were present as rapper Common praised Vandy students for their attendance and gave shoutouts to TSU and Fisk students.

"It was good to know that our support and presence was not overlooked," Worlds said. "I definitely enjoyed myself."

The concert was at its climax with the sighting of Atlanta-based rapper



PHOTO BY TIFFANI MCDANIEL

**Hip-hop emcee Common was one of three artists that performed at Vanderbilt's Homecoming concert on Friday, Oct. 20.**

Ludacris, who just recently shed his styled cornrows for a new look for his new sound, with his latest release *Release Therapy*. The Southern style rap phenom kept the crowd at its feet as he grooved to past hits (*Stand Up* and *What's Your Fantasy*) his collaboration tracks, (*Yeah, Lovers And Friends*, and *Unpredictable*) and poured more energy with the finale track *Shake Your Moneymaker* featuring Pharell.

With the end of Ludacris' set leaving time at 11:30 p.m., it was plain to see

that students were left satisfied and saddened for the concert dismissal.

"Common was my favorite performer," Morrison said. "Ludacris and Shareefa were good, but Common outdid himself."

Morrison also stated that she did not mind traveling to Vanderbilt University for Friday night's celebration, but felt that the artists that performed there would have been appreciated more at a TSU sponsored event.

## iRead







### Compact DISCUSSION Ratings

- 5/5 Instant classic
- 4/5 Ground breaking
- 3/5 OK, worth a listen
- 2/5 Buy the bootleg
- 1/5 Don't waste the money

### Janet Jackson -

20 Y.O. - 3/5

The release of Janet Jackson's new album *20 Y.O.* is her way of celebrating 20 years of being in the business. And with one danceable track after another, Janet invites her fans to "keep it light...and have fun." Enlisting the help of producers Jermaine Dupri, Jimmy Jam and Terry Lewis and the songwriting skills of Johnita Austin on her team, Janet definitely rocks the house once again!

The album consists of eleven tracks and five spoken interludes that portray Ms. Jackson as a sexy, yet soft spoken and sweet performer with a presence that can not be duplicated. The overall impression of the album is one of a cautiously crafted collection of material, which presents Janet as a mature woman ready to take the next 20 years of her life with authority.

Her first single *Call on Me* with rap artist Nelly, set the tone and gave Janet's fans a sneak peek into what the album had to offer. It also confirmed Janet's relationship status with Jermaine Dupri. In the album dedication Janet writes, "I cherish our love and the ground you walk on. Thank you for loving me."

The second single *So Excited* reminds us of Janet's sexual energy and leaves little to the imagination as far as lyrics go "get me so excited...I'm hot..." is about as clean as the entire song gets! With the assistance of the always-vulgar rapper Khia on the hook, Janet defiantly makes her point! Exactly what point that is, I will leave for you to decide for yourself!

Other tracks like *With You*, *Daybreak* and *This Body* add to the album's soon to be success and keep you bobbing your head. However, the album is still missing something, a something I cannot really put my finger on.

Jackson is gradually losing the crowd of people down for her from the start in

efforts to cater to the money market. I am aware that the music business has no consistency; however I think that her fans deserve to be connected to the music she puts out, both new and old. Let's be real, without her fans Jackson would be nothing, ya know?

**Bottom Line:** Jackson fails to reach her fans on all different levels. This and her last album have been geared toward Jackson's younger fans, and her fans from years ago get somewhat short-changed. Her expressions of sexuality in some cases are a bit too extreme for those who have supported Jackson since she was a young girl wanting a little *Control*.

### Monica -

*The Makings of Me* - 4/5

Teaming up with her close friends in the business, Jermaine Dupri and Missy Elliot, as well as Swizz Beats, an even more grown-up Monica Arnold presents her fans with an album so personal it seems as if they are reading the pages of her diary. *The Makings of Me* has been the long-awaited fourth album from "Miss Thang" herself.

We all know Monica has been through it all and back again—close friends succumbing suicide or incarcerations and heartache that followed. Over the years she has overcome these professional and personal upsets and setbacks. And in *The Makings of Me*, she shares some of these instances and situations with us.

Though her first single, *Everytime Tha' Beat Drop*, which features Dem Franchize Boys, is upbeat and fast paced, fans shouldn't buy the album in anticipation of songs like this. Most of the songs on this album are lush and laid back. These songs tell a story and for the most part show Monica's vulnerability when it comes to dealing with relationships and life in general.

The album shows real emotion and hits on topics that just about any young woman can relate to. Songs like, *Why Her?*, *Doin' Me Right*, *A Dozen Roses* and *Getaway* will be played repeatedly just because of the songs' content.

In a recent television interview, Monica said this album was like therapy to her soul. She said it helped her finally walk away from the past situations that kept haunting her in everyday life.

**Bottom Line:** With her head held high and a joy that only she can know or understand, Monica invites us to discover and explore the aspects and pieces of life that have made her into the Monica we see now... So join in the celebration and become acquainted with the album.

Whitney E. Bell

## LITERARY REVIEWS

Grade: A+

*Time Out*

By Geavonnie Frazier

Strap on your seat belt, and take a spell-bounding ride with writer Geavonnie Frazier, as he pens the drama-filled life of ex-playboy Daunte. *Time Out* focuses on the life of two Detroit ladies' men that will do nearly anything to have a woman lay down with them for the night. However, haunting acts of selfishness lead this dynamic duo on a roller-coaster ride from hell.

The story begins on a Saturday night in downtown Detroit. The club was live, and all the "gold-diggers" and "chicken heads" were in full effect. As always Daunte and childhood friend Antonio "Pretty Boy," lures two "hoodrats" into coming to their place for breakfast. After a night of partying and dancing, the after hours' party begins at their place, and they greet the ladies with not only breakfast but also drugs and alcohol, and you can only imagine what happens next.

As the story progresses, Daunte begins to take a new direction in life while Antonio is still all about pimping and playing women for all their worth. However, Daunte is focused on beginning his career as a teacher, since he received a degree from an HBCU in Washington, D.C.

Faith Luciano, became the remarkable woman, to whom Daunte for the first time is faithful and committed.

Even though initially Antonio thinks Faith is just like the other young women, but in due time he eventually gave up,

and eventually Daunte wins her over. For the next two years, Faith and Daunte grow to being inseparable — she eventually moves in with him, and they start talking about moving to New York so that Daunte can teach while she attends law school.

Inevitably, Antonio begins to hate on his best friend's relationship. He goes as far as setting Daunte up with a stripper in hopes that he would succumb back to his old ways. However, Daunte does not fall into temptation.

Mysteriously, Crystal, an old flame of Daunte's leaves a message on his answering machine. In rage, Faith demands that Daunte go and get tested. Reluctantly, Daunte brushes off what Faith continuously badgers him to do. Two weeks of no intimacy slowly go by for Dante and Faith until Antonio accompanies Daunte to Dr. Johnson's office.

With Faith still upset, and back at home with her family. Daunte, tries everything in his might to reconcile with her. Eventually, Daunte decides it would be a great idea to take a vacation, so he goes to New York to visit some family and friends. When he returns, he has high hopes for his life to be back on track, and for Faith to take him back. However, he is in for a real reality check.

Arriving at his house, Daunte, is greeted with a letter from the doctor's office, a phone call, and a jaw dropping tragic ending. The conclusion to *Time Out*, will have every reader craving for more.

Bottom line: *Time Out*, is a book that should definitely be read in the black community. The topics that they cover are controversial, but they raise awareness.

Tiffani McDaniel





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# Hip-Hop hype man hosts heated hopefuls

## Students weigh in on reality show

By Tiffani McDaniel  
Co-Assistant Arts and Culture Editor

The American public has famously recognized William Jonathon Drayton, Jr. for massive clocks set at twelve o'clock or six o'clock, comical sunglasses, flashy colors and ridiculous looking Viking-like helmets.

However, most fans best know this self-proclaimed "world's greatest hype man" as Flava.

Flav. Besides being loud, rambunctious and a bit bizarre, Flav also has the top reality show on VH1.

After nearly a 15-year hiatus, Flavor Flav began to dabble in reality television in 2004. He became a cast member on season three, of VH1's *Surreal Life*. Flav appeared along side five more "out of the spotlight" celebrities, and a platonic relationship grew into more between Flav and fellow cast member Brigitte Nielsen.

Brigitte's and Flav's vibrant personalities and maelstrom of a relationship sparked VH1's production to create a spin-off of *Surreal Life*, which premiered January 2005, appropriately named *Strange Love*. Because of constant bickering the two mutually agreed to separate, and Flavor of Love began production.

In January 2006, *Flavor of Love* was added to VH1's Celebriality lineup. The 10-part series had the same notion as ABC's reality pageant/shows *The Bachelor* and *The Bachelorette*. Twenty random women were chosen to stay at Flav's crib in Los Angeles, in hopes of finding true love.

Beyond the traditional notion, *Flavor of Love* displayed many significant differences. Flav and the show's producers came up with unique "street" nicknames for all his contestants, along with distributing gold-plated clocks for the contestants kept from elimination. Also, the ladies of season one did just about any and everything to capture Flav's attention from a cooking contest to a blindfolded sniff test!

Channez Martin, a sophomore economic and finance major from

Cleveland, said the show is entertaining but misses the mark of finding Flav's "true love."

Flav's bodyguard Big-Rick, mother Anna Drayton, and special guests, such as Nielsen, gruelingly contribute their opinions to help him search for his future "Mrs. Flava Flav." At the conclusion of season one, he eventually chose Nikki "Hoopz" Alexander on March 12. Hoopz not only won Flav's affection, but also a gold grill to wear in her mouth.

Therron Jones, a spring 2006 TSU graduate from Albany, Ga., said he thinks Flava Flav created this show for the money.

"It's hard to take his show seriously, especially after his breakup with Hoopz from season one," he said. "Despite all of this, I am still one of the many million viewers that tune in every Sunday."

Just when you thought you heard your last "you know what time it is," it was time for another outrageous season of Flavor of Love. After season one's finale, Hoopz gave Flav the boot and they went their separate ways. For a second season, Flav returned with 20 more hopefuls.

*Flavor of Love 2* premiered on Aug. 6 with 5.8 million viewers, according to theenemymboard.com. Casting directors from VH1 said they selected women from diverse races, and a variety of ages and body types, according to the show's media release on VH1.com.

The newly selected women endure creative challenges, such as running a soul food restaurant, a hip-hop dance off, a chance to meet and impress rap legends, such as DJ Quik and Warren G. They also accompany Flav on exotic vacations all in hopes of weeding out the chicken heads and those good ole gold diggers.

Martin added that the show does not have any substance and it is "just hilarious to see women fight over Flava Flav!"

However, tables turn when season one viewer favorite Tiffany "New York" Patterson is re-recruited. On the Sunday, Sept. 10 show, New York initially returned to help Flav with choosing Miss Right. After a show full of antics and

dramatics, Flav presented her with a clock at eliminations, wooing the season one veteran into competing against the remaining five women.

"Personally, I think Flava Flav should have picked New York," Jones exclaimed. "She's crazy about Flav and she keeps it real most of the time!"

But of Sunday, Oct. 15, Flav left Jones and many other viewers disappointed when he made the jaw-dropping decision to banish New York, and instead go for the mellow opponent he'd found in Deelishis. The one and a half hour season two finale, was reminiscent of the previous year's season finale featuring a win for Hoopz. Once again, New York was left in the dust, and humiliated as she continuously boosted and bragged about her being the future Mrs. Flava Flav.

"It sucked!" Jones said in anguish. "Flava Flav should have never brought New York back on the show (if) he knew he did not intend to pick her."

"(New York) was eliminated because of her ways," Martin added. "But he knew how New York was from last season. So therefore I'm convinced that New York was probably paid to come back on the show!"

However, fans should not throw a pity party for New York just yet, she is in talks of creating her own reality show called *Flavorette*, according to reality-blurred.com. Twenty single male hopefuls now have the chance to impress this outspoken individual.

"The men seeking my attention are worse than the women who were on season one and season two (of *Flavor of Love*)," New York said in a media release. "This show is so chaotic. It's overboard. It's over-the-top. It's extreme."

"These men know they are fighting for a wonderful woman so they have been at each other's throats," she added. "I'm flattered by it."

As far as a premiere date goes, fans will just have to sit tight and see what tricks New York will have under her sleeve to lure in Mr. Right.

## New television series sitting pretty

*Ugly Betty* debuted on Sept. 28 at 7 p.m. with more than 16.1 million viewers, according to Nielsen Media Research. New and emerging actress America Ferrera, big screen actor Eric Mabius and legendary actress/singer Vanessa L. Williams star in ABC's top dramatic comedy series.

*Ugly Betty* is based on a popular Columbian soap opera, *Yo Soy Betty La Fea*. Acclaimed Latina actress Selma Hayek, and her production company Ventarosa, transformed the once Spanish comedy into an Americanized one-hour sitcom that has all the critics buzzing.

Betty Suarez (Ferrera) is an unattractive, yet determine young Latino woman. She is a native of New York City and has aspirations of one day overcoming her families' struggle as middle-class citizens. Although Suarez is educated, she has no idea about the fashion industry, however she lands a position as an assistant for *Mode Magazine*. Her boss Daniel Meade (Mabius) womanizes all of his assistants, but is forced to hire Suarez, because he is forced to do so by his father Bradford Meade.

Daniel's father knows Betty is the one woman that his son would never find attractive. Therefore, Bradford Meade forces his son to hire Betty and never fire her no matter what she does wrong.

Bradford Meade did this because he didn't want his son to run off another secretary due to his sexual relationships with them, which caused many past secretaries to no longer feel comfortable working for the publication.

Therefore, Betty becomes the perfect candidate for the job, according to Bradford Meade. Day one at *Mode Magazine* is tumultuous! She encounters all her new attractive female co-workers, who make it their mission to humiliate her on a daily basis. Her bosses, along with his friend and magazine photographer, intentionally plan to work Betty to a pulp, in hopes that she will quit.

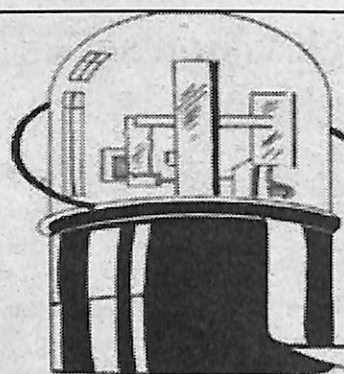
Wilhelmina Slater (Williams), a legendary fashionista for *Mode*, is disturbed with former editor and chief Bradford Meade that he promoted his son Daniel, instead of her. In revenge, Wilhelmina and her assistant become indulged in trying to sabotage Daniel on the set of a photo shoot.

*Ugly Betty* airs Thursday nights at 7 p.m. CST on ABC.

Tiffani McDaniel

Be sure to read Thursday's  
Homecoming issue





# The Meter

TSUMETER.COM THE MEASURE OF STUDENT OPINION AND SENTIMENT TSUMETER.COM

Volume 1

Tennessee State College, Nashville 8, Tenn., April 21, 1950

Number 1

## THE METER IS BORN

Since 1950 the measure  
of student opinion and sentiment



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The Meter will enter its 56th year in September, 1956. It has as its motto, "The Measure of Student Opinion."

The Meter strives toward the heights of student journalistic effort and to reflect the opinion of the masses of students.

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THE METER

The Meter

For 56 years and counting....your source for TSU news!



# HOMECOMING 2006 GUIDE

## Monday, Oct. 23

Battle of Residence Halls Talent Show  
Humanities Building  
7 p.m.

## Tuesday, Oct. 24

Student Motivational Task Force  
Reception  
6 p.m.

Mr. TSU Pageant  
Kean Hall Gymnasium  
7 p.m.

## Wednesday, Oct. 25

Student Motivational Task Force  
8 a.m.

Engineering Cluster Program  
8 a.m.

Miss TSU's Coronation  
Kean Hall Gymnasium  
7 p.m.

Miss TSU's Coronation Ball  
(Formal Attire)  
Double Tree Hotel  
315 4th Ave. N.  
9 p.m.

## Thursday, Oct. 26

Ralph Boston Golf Tournament  
Hermitage Golf Course  
8 a.m.

Engineering Cluster Program  
8 a.m.

Student Motivational Task Force  
Luncheon  
11:30 a.m.

Class Reunion Luncheon  
Jane Elliott Hall Building  
Honoring classes: '71, '76, '81, '86,  
'91, '96, '01  
1:30 p.m.

Miss TSU's Tea  
By invitation only  
4 p.m.

11th Annual Agriculture and  
Home Economics Hall of Fame Banquet  
Farrell-Westbrook (The Barn)  
6 p.m.

Alumni Mixer  
Opryland Hotel  
Cash Bar  
8 p.m.

## Friday, Oct. 27

Presidential Installation Ceremony  
Gentry Center  
9 a.m.

Presidential Installation Reception  
Gentry Plaza  
10:30 a.m.

Grand Marshal and Honoree Luncheon  
By invitation only  
11 a.m.

Nashville Alumni Chapter Fish Fry  
President's Lawn  
11 a.m.

Student Pep Rally  
Hale Stadium  
12 noon

4th Annual First Friday Alumni Mixer  
(immediately following the pep rally)  
BAR CAR  
209 10th Avenue South inside Cummins  
Station  
Must be 21 years of age and up to enter.  
Free wings and 2 for 1 Bacardi Silver  
until 3 p.m.  
1 p.m. - 3 p.m.

Leadership Symposium Lecture  
Levi Watkin Jr., MD  
Humanities Building  
2 p.m.

Kappa Alpha Psi - Alpha Theta  
75th Anniversary Banquet  
Opryland Hotel  
5 p.m.

Presidential Inaugural Scholarship Gala  
Reception  
Opryland Hotel  
6:30 p.m.

Presidential Inaugural Scholarship Gala  
Dinner and Ball  
Opryland Hotel  
Formal Attire, Tickets: \$150 per person  
7 p.m.

Football Alumni Mixer  
Opryland Hotel  
9 p.m.

Grown Folks First Friday  
Gibson's Showcase, 161 Opry Mills  
Drive.  
\$10 Surcharge for Jeans, minimum age  
25, No athletic gear.  
Reserved tables call 615.473.5149

9 p.m.

First Friday VIP Party  
Wildhorse Saloon, 120 Second Ave  
Reserved Tables call 615.473.5149  
9:30 p.m.

Reunion Hospitality Suite  
Opryland Hotel  
10 p.m.

## Saturday, October 28

Homecoming Parade  
21st & Jefferson Street to 33rd & John  
Merritt Blvd.  
9 a.m.

Showcase of Bands  
Hale Stadium - \$5  
12 - noon

Greek Step Show  
Gentry Center - \$10  
1:30 p.m.

Kappa Alpha Psi Reunion Meeting.  
Learning Resource Center (old library)  
3 p.m. - 5 p.m.

TSU vs Samford  
LP Field  
Downtown - Nashville  
6 p.m.

Old School/New School Victory Dance  
Opryland Hotel  
10 p.m. - 2 a.m.

First Friday Part II  
Hickory Hollow Mall,  
5252 Hickory Hollow Pkwy - \$10  
No Athletic Gear  
10 p.m. - 3 a.m.

## Sunday, Oct. 29

Kappa Alpha Psi Worship Service  
Opryland Hotel  
9 a.m.

Dr. Bobby Jones Gospel Show  
TSU's Performing Arts Center  
10 a.m.

Band Reunion - 60th Anniversary  
Brunch  
Opryland Hotel  
12 - noon

## Homecoming Frat Gatherings Alpha Phi Alpha

The Beta Omicron chapter of Alpha  
Phi Alpha Fraternity Inc. will host a 72nd  
anniversary Homecoming Luncheon on

Saturday, Oct. 28 at noon in the James E.  
Farrell/Fred E. Westbrook Agricultural  
Research and Extension Complex (The  
Barn).

A. C. Wharton, the first black mayor  
of Shelby County Tennessee, initiated  
into the Beta Omicron chapter in 1963,  
will serve as the keynote speaker incor-  
porating the theme "Bridging the Gap:  
Carrying on the Legacy of Our  
Founders."

Since May 12, 1934, the brothers of  
Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity, Inc. Beta  
Omicron chapter have continued to strive  
to uphold the motto set forth by our  
founders, "Scholarship, Fellowship, and  
Devotion," according to a media release  
sent to *The Meter*. For more informa-  
tion, direct any correspondence to the  
luncheon chair, Ricky Bearden at rbea-  
den@mysu.tnstate.edu.

## Kappa Alpha Psi

TSU's Alpha Theta of Kappa Alpha  
Psi Fraternity Inc. will play host to the  
fraternity's Grand Polemarch (National  
President) Samuel C. Hamilton as he  
holds a town hall meeting on campus.  
The meeting, for members only, is sched-  
uled for Saturday, Oct. 28 at 3 p.m. in the  
Learning Resource Center building.

The meeting is one of several slated  
to be held across the country in an effort  
to stay in contact with members of the  
fraternity. Alpha Theta, founded at TSU  
in 1931, is one of the oldest and largest  
chapters in the fraternity, according to a  
media release sent to *The Meter*. The  
chapter also plans on celebrating its 75th  
anniversary during Homecoming. For  
more information contact Rev. Tony C.  
Evans Sr. at (856) 541-6385 or at  
evans@ci.camden.nj.us.

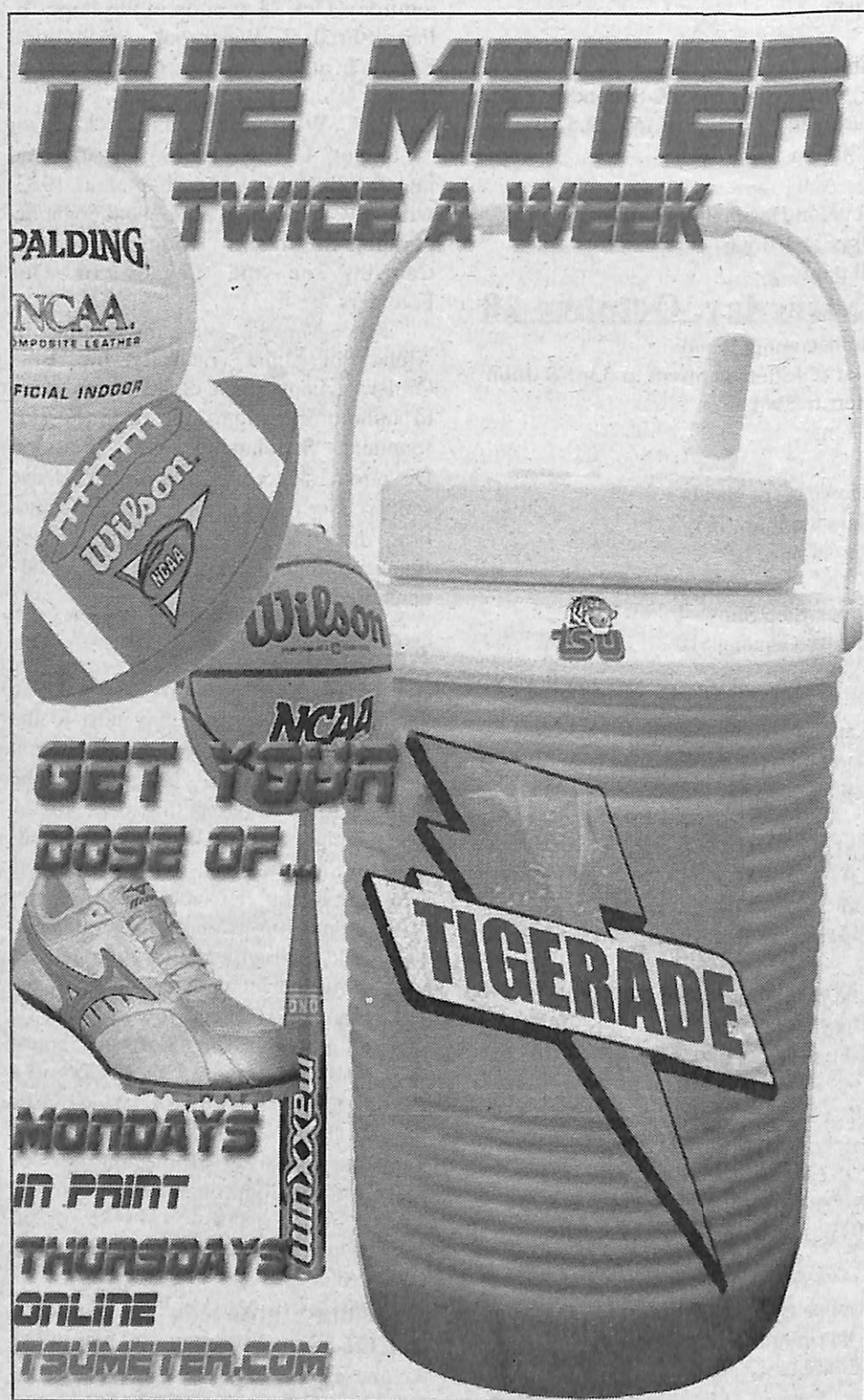
## Phi Beta Sigma

The Zeta Alpha chapter of Phi Beta  
Sigma Fraternity Inc. will host its official  
adoption of Lena B. Watson Residence  
Hall ceremony in the building's lobby on  
Oct. 25, at 6 p.m.

The program is scheduled to include  
a brief history of the fraternity and the  
chapter, future plans with the freshman  
men's residence hall, refreshments, and  
fellowship amongst the brothers, faculty,  
and students, according to a media  
release to *The Meter*. For the past 75  
years, the Zeta Alpha Chapter has issued  
various scholarships, tutorial programs in  
churches, schools, and community cen-  
ters.



## NEWS BREAK

*'Cause everyone needs a break from the news!*

## in the Poll

With the Geier desegregation case close and \$40 million guaranteed to TSU over the next five years, what do you think will happen to the current enrollment of about 9,000 during that time frame?

It will grow by more 3,000 - 38  
 It will shrink by more than 3,000 - 3  
 It will stay stagnate - 18  
 It will grow by less than 3,000 - 29  
 It will shrink by less than 3,000 - 3  
 Total number of votes - 91

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 is looking for  
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# TSU

# Sports

## THE METER

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Issue 12

## Tigers celebrate 50th anniversary of championship

By LaVonte Young  
Sports Editor

During this year's Homecoming, the TSU Department of Athletics will be celebrating the 50-year anniversary of the 1956 championship season.

In the 1956 season, the Tigers had a perfect season going 9-0 by defeating Langston 46-7, Grambling State 33-0, Prairie View 45-6, Central State of Ohio 32-6, Maryland State 6-0, Southern 52-6, Alcorn A&M 52-6, Kentucky State 40-0, and Lincoln 47-0.

Also during that season, the Tigers outscored their opponents 353 to 19 and also had four games where they held opponents scoreless.

"Going into the season, our goal

was to make it to Orange Blossom Classic," said team captain James Buford. "We knew if we were going to get to the postseason, we were going to have to beat Grambling – the team that made it to the Classic last season."

As a reward for the perfect season, TSU was invited to play in the Orange Blossom Classic. The classic was the game held for the Black College National Championship. And that year, Tigers went head-to-head against Florida A&M.

Buford said the Tigers knew that this game was going to be an high scoring game, but they believed that their defense could make stop on defense and they did.

"Before the season started our goal was to go undefeated so we could get a

chance to play for the championship," Buford said.

The Tigers' defensive stand in the fourth quarter lifted the squad to a 41-39 win.

"We took pride in our defense," said Leon Jamison, a member of the 1956 team. "We wanted (to shut) out all of our opponents."

The 1956 Tigers defense only gave up 6 points per game, which is the lowest in the program's history, and that year the team only gave up one touchdown through the air.

"The most memorable play of the game is when we stopped their All-American running back Willie Gilmore on fourth and goal at the 1-yard line with 30 seconds left in the game," Buford said.

Jamison agreed, saying, "Our defense really came up big for us. We believed the defense was going to make a big play for us and they did."

That Tigers were led by three All-Americans on the team that year, including Buford, who played guard, tackle Charles Gavin and halfback Faye Mitchell, who scored 17 touchdowns on the season.

Mitchell helped lead a rushing attack that gained 2,698 yards which is the most in one season by a Tiger team. That year, the Tigers also rushed for 269 yards per game.

"I believe our team from '53-'56 set the standard for TSU athletics," Buford said. "We worked hard and in our last year it paid off when we won the championship."

## TSU snuffs 'Cocks in big OVC road game

By Lavonte Young  
Sports Editor

The TSU Tigers (4-3, 3-0 OVC) are holding tight to to a first place in the Ohio Valley Conference thanks to a road win against Jacksonville State's homecoming, 38-31.

The Tigers did not waste time getting on the scoreboard. The Tigers' Reno Thomson blocked Gamecock Zach Walden's punt to give the TSU the ball at the Gamecocks' 19-yard line. Quarterback Antonio Heffner hit Chris Johnson for 15 yards, which led to a 4-yard touchdown by Javaris Williams to give the Tigers a 7-0 lead.

On the Tigers' next possession, Heffner pass was intercepted by Jacksonville State's Craig Agee at the Gamecocks' 5-yard line. Off of this turnover, the Gamecocks drove 95 yards which was capped off by a Matt Hardin pass to James Wilkerson pass that went

70 yard for a touch down to tie the game up at 7-7.

"We had communication break down on that play, which led to a big play," said Tigers' junior defensive back Dominique Rodgers-Cromartie.

The Big Blue roared back using an 11-play, 73-yards drive, which led to Antonio Heffner's 1-yard touchdown run to give the Tigers a 14-7 lead.

On the kickoff, Clay Green made a 48-yard return, giving the Gamecocks the ball at TSU's 42-yard line. Matt Hardin completed a 25-yard pass to Rhett, which brought Jacksonville State to the Tigers' 15-yard line. After a Clay Green touchdown was called back, the Gamecocks went into their bags of tricks to fake a field goal with a Rhett 24-yard touch down. The game was tied up at 14-14.

The Tigers went three downs and out, forcing them to punt. The Tigers' punt traveled 25 yards and the Gamecocks got a big 25-yard punt return by Josh Moten to give the Gamecocks

the ball at the Tigers' 25-yard line. The Tigers' defense held the Gamecocks to a field goal, keeping the Jacksonville State lead to 17-14.

On the ensuing kickoff, the Gamecocks recovered an on-side kick to get the ball at the Tigers 27-yard line. On the first play of the drive, Aaron Strong picked off a Matt Hardin pass to give the Tigers the ball back.

After a Tigers' punt, the Gamecocks went on 9-play, 54-yard drive that was capped off by a Clay Green 1-yard touchdown to give Jacksonville State a 24-14 lead.

With 49 second left before the half, Heffner led the Tigers down the field completing three passes, including a 34-yard strike to Chris Johnson to cut the lead down to 24-21 going in to the half.

"That play lifted us up before going into the half," Johnson said. "It was the two minute drill that we run and Heffner threw a great pass and I made a big play."

The Tigers' defense came out hard after the half, forcing the Gamecocks to

punt on the opening possession of the third quarter.

The Big Blue quickly put together a 6-play, 61-yard drive. The key of the play came when Heffner hit Jeremy Stevens for a 26-yard gain. On the same play, Jacksonville State was called for a personal foul penalty, which tacked 14 more yards. A few plays later Williams ran for a 13-yard touchdown that gave the Tigers a 28-24 lead.

"That was big drive for us," Stephens said. "That score helped us relax and it helped us get into grove into the second half"

The Tigers added on to their lead in the beginning of the fourth quarter getting a 33-yard field goal from Eric Benson to give the Tigers a 31-24 lead.

On their next drive the Gamecocks answered back with a Hardin pass to Jeremy Walker, who scored with a 39 yard run that tied the game up, 31-31.

On the next drive, the Tigers put the game to rest when Heffner hit Chris

See "Tigers" on page 22



# Tigers get big win

Continued from page 21

Johnson for a 63-yard touchdown to give the Big Blue a 38-31 lead.

"That was a designed play and I knew I had to beat the safety to make a play," Johnson said. "Heffner threw me a great pass and it became a big play for us".

The Gamecocks tried to answer, but a Matt Hardin pass intercepted by Aaron

Strong ensured the Tigers' victory.

"Coach put is in the right coverage to make plays," Strong said. "I saw what he wanted to do and I made the play."

"That was a huge win for us," Strong added. "We beat a very good team."

*"That was a huge win for us,  
we beat a very good team."*

- Aaron Strong



## Tiger Top 5



### 1. Antonio Heffner – Quarterback

Sophomore – Undecided  
Memphis

Heffner completed 13 out of 23 passes for 260 yards and three touchdowns to lead the Tigers to victory over OVC foe Jacksonville State.

### 2. Chris Johnson – Wide Receiver

Sophomore – Business Administration/Marketing  
Nashville

Johnson had 5 receptions for 156 yards and two touchdowns, including the 63-yard game winner for the Tigers.

### 3. Tiana Maua – Setter

Senior – Psychology  
Spokane, Wash.

Maua recorded 112 set assists in two games over the weekend. Maua recorded 40 set assists against Eastern Kentucky on Friday Oct. 20. Also, Maua recorded a career high 72 set assists against Morehead State on Oct. 21.

### 4. Kelly Davis – Outside Hitter

Junior – Psychology  
Farrell, Penn.

Davis recorded a double-double 24 digs and 20 kills against Morehead State on Saturday Oct. 21 against Morehead State.

### 5. Aaron Strong – Defensive Back

Senior – Physical Therapy  
Atlanta

Strong recorded two interceptions including an interception on Jacksonville State last drive, which iced the game for the Tigers.

# Women's hoops coach to appear on game show

Tracee Jones, TSU's head women's basketball coach, is scheduled to appear on the nationally televised game show *Deal or No Deal*. The episode featuring Jones will air on Monday, Oct. 30 at 7 p.m. CST. Her closing episode is expected to air on Thursday, Nov. 2 at 8 p.m.

Jones auditioned for the show at the Casino Queen in East St. Louis, Ill. during the summer. She later earned a second interview and recorded a live audition. Jones' third interaction with the show was the actual taping of next week's episodes in Los Angeles in August and September.

Jones is joined in the studio by fellow Tiger and TSU Director of Athletics Teresa Phillips, along with her mother, Deborah Jones and boyfriend Charles "Bubba" Wells, assistant men's coach at Austin Peay State University.

"Coach Webster's comments were unprofessional and are not in keeping with the high standards he has set for himself and his program, nor are they consistent with the standards of sportsmanship and ethical conduct held by the Ohio Valley Conference."

## TSU still awaits ruling on forfeit

The TSU football program is taking care of business within the Ohio Valley Conference as OVC officials prepare to rule on the status of the team's Murray State win on Saturday, Sept. 9.

In that game, the Tigers played defensive tackle Lamar Divens, who was later ruled ineligible. Divens, a transfer from Vanderbilt, had recorded 4.5 tackles, a tackle for a loss and tallied a safety in three games for

TSU.

TSU head coach James Webster told The Meter in the Sept. 25 issue that TSU was informed two days prior to the game by Vandy they had made a mistake with Divens' transfer documents.

Divens transferred to a junior college last spring to improve his grades and then enrolled at TSU this semester.

Webster said Divens had long anticipated the chance to play against his former team.

"He was heartbroken that he was not able to play," Webster said. "Ever since this summer, he was looking forward to this game."

Staff reports based on information from [tsutigers.com](http://tsutigers.com).

## Tiger Briefs

### Webster reprimanded by the OVC

TSU head football coach James Webster was issued a reprimand from the Ohio Valley Conference following his criticism of conference officials last week.

After TSU defeated Tennessee Tech 30-20, Webster expressed public displeasure with the number of penalties called against the Tigers versus those called on Tech.

TSU had 14 penalties for 109 yards and TTU had 3 for 15 yards.

"The Ohio Valley Conference expects coaches and student-athletes to conduct themselves in an appropriate manner at all times," said OVC Commissioner Jon A. Steinbrecher, who issued the reprimand, in a media release.

Good Luck Tigers.  
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